

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of producing weakened zones in a plastic trim part, comprising providing the plastic trim part with a carrier layer and a decorative layer, by inserting the decorative layer into a foaming tool and coating the decorative layer with a foam layer, backing the decorative layer with a carrier layer of expanded poly propylene so that the decorative layer attaches to the carrier layer by means of the foam layer; each of said carrier layer and foam layer having a thickness dimension, subsequently bringing an ultra sound cutting device in contact with the carrier layer and the foam layer thereby cutting into the carrier layer and the foam layer and producing a cut with a width dimension of up to 1mm through the entire thickness of the carrier layer and the foam layer and extending along a longitudinal extension thereof.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the decorative layer is comprises thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO) or poly vinyl chloride (PVC).
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the foam layer comprises thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO) or poly vinyl chloride (PVC).

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the cut is made resulting in a cross section in the shape of one of a rectangular or rhomboidal shape.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the carrier layer is cut by the cutting step only partially at some locations.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the cut into the carrier layer extends not less than one half of the entire thickness dimension of the carrier layer.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the cut extends through the thickness dimension of the entire carrier layer and through the entire thickness dimension of the carrier layer.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein the cut extends through the entire thickness dimension of the carrier layer into the foam layer.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the cut extends through the thickness dimension of the carrier layer and the foam layer into the decorative layer.